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#### **TODAY'S WEATHER**

Glasgow & West
Dry but rather cloudy. A few
bright spells possible. Highs
5-8C (41-46F). Winds east
at 3-5mph.

## Edinburgh, Fife &

Fine and dry with sunny periods and variable cloud. Highs 4-7C (39-45F). Winds

west at 6-8mph. **Dundee & Aberdeen** Generally cloudy. A risk of patchy rain in Aberdeen. Highs 6-9C (43-48F). Winds north-west at 5-7mph. Forth Valley
Rather cloudy but dry with some supplies at times.

some sunshine at times. Highs 5-8C (41-46F). Winds west at 2-4mph. Inverness & Moray Cold but dry and fine. Highs

7-10C (45-50F). Winds west

## at 2-4mph. **Highlands & Islands**

Rather cloudy with the odd spot of rain possible. Highs 6-9C (43-48F). Winds west at 2-4mph.

#### SUN, MOON & TIDES

Moon sets: 6.41pm Moon rises: 10.25am Sun sets: 3.47pm **Sun rises:** 8.26am Lighting-up time: 3.47pm

High water: Greenock 1.37am, 2.00pm Aberdeen 2.40am, 2.48pm Leith 4.05am, 4.14pm

#### 7-DAY FORECAST

#### **UK Weather**

www.metoffice.gov.uk

#### TRAVEL ADVICE

**AA Roadwatch:** 09003 401161

## EMERGENCY HELPLINES

NHS 24	111
National Rail Enquiries	0345 748 4950
Scottish Hydro Electric	0800 300 999
ScottishPower	0845 272 7999
Scottish Water	0800 0778778
Gas emergencies	0800 111 999
Childline	0800 1111
Crimestoppers	0800 555111
Samaritans	116123
Victim Support	0345 603 9213
Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline	0800 027 1234
Scottish SPCA	03000 999 999

# LOOKING FOR A JOB?

THOUSANDS OF VACANCIES AT SCOTCAREERS.CO.UK

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# Cartel oil squeeze could help North Sea



HOPEFUL Paul de Leeuw

production could give the North Sea a much-needed shot in the arm, experts said yesterday.

A barrel of Brent crude passed \$50 as cartel Opec, who produce a third of global oil, agreed a 3.56 per cent reduction in output, their first since 2008.

Industry body Oil & Gas UK said a cut in production would be welcome at "a

challenging time" for the North Sea industry.

Professor Paul de Leeuw. director of the Oil and Gas Institute at Aberdeen's Robert Gordon University, said: "The price going up doesn't mean that activity ramps up straight away.

'There are some indicators that things are heading in the right

between that happening in activity in the North Sea.'

More than 350,000 oil-related jobs have been axed globally since the start of the downturn two vears ago with more than 100,000 in the UK alone.

The professor predicted another tough year in 2017 before an upturn in 2018 if the Opec deal kicks in. He said: "There's a lot of new

volume coming onstream at the same time so this is a big step towards closing the gap between supply and demand."

There was speculation yesterday that Weatherford, a major oil and gas firm with a base in Aberdeen, would be next to wield the axe.

A spokesman said: "We will not comment on the details of the ongoing consultation process

# **BREXIT** HAMMOND PANS EU PLAN

# JST SUC UPSCOTLA

Chancellor says separate deal is 'not realistic' before meeting with Sturgeon

NICOLA Sturgeon was told to >>> DAVID CLEGG stop "clutching at straws" over Brexit as the Chancellor yesterday ruled out a separate Scottish deal.

Philip Hammond used a visit to Edinburgh to stress special arrangements for Scotland on EU trade and immigration are "not a realistic prospect".

The First Minister will publish proposals this month to keep Scotland in the single market if the rest of the UK leaves.

Hammond insisted Scotland would have to put up with whatever outcome Britain ended up with.

Dismissing separate agreement, he said: "This is not a realistic prospect. "The European

Union are clear they will negotiate a deal with the

United Kingdom. The United Kingdom is the member state.

You have to only think about it for a few moments to realise that a separate immigration deal for any part of the United Kingdom would be impractical."

Hammond spoke after hosting a business discussion and touring a research facility at Edinburgh's Heriot-Watt University.

He then had a frosty half-hour meeting with Sturgeon, who is increasingly likely to call another independence referendum if she wants Scotland to forge a separate relationship with the EU. The First Minister has been

travelling Europe to make the case for a special Scottish Brexit deal but her proposals need the backing of the UK Government. Hammond's comments

effectively ruled out any chance of receiving No10's blessing.
He said: "This is a United

Kingdom issue and the will of the people of the UK was to leave. We cannot have a different

deal or a different outcome for different parts of the

He added: "I The EU will negotiate a deal with the UK. The UK is the

PHILIP HAMMOND

member

state

want to work closely with the Scottish Government and the other devolved administrations to make sure we approach these negotiations in a way that secures the best possible deal for all parts of the United Kingdom."

He said he wanted to move on from the "backward-looking, clutching-at-straws" mindset to work together to ensure Brexit is done in a way that is most supportive of the UK economy and the Scottish economy".

A spokesman for Sturgeon said: "The Chancellor said he looked forward to hearing our proposals on Scotland's place in

"Those proposals will be aimed at securing Scotland's place in the single market, which is vital for jobs, investment and our overall economic well-being



BLACK FRIDAY – ONLY THIS TIME IT MATTERS PAGES 8&9